



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

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## **USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR PANOLA COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE DISTRICT**

**CARTHAGE, TEXAS**, August 20, 2004 – USDA Rural Development, State Director, Bryan Daniel, announced today that the Panola County Junior College District, received a \$2,285,000 community facilities direct loan. USDA Rural Development is charged with assisting rural communities by administering programs targeted to strengthening the economy and infrastructure of rural areas.

“USDA Rural Development’s Community Facilities program helps rural communities keep pace with the needs of their rising populations,” said Daniel. “Rural residents can utilize our programs to help provide essential public services that will enhance the quality of life for all rural residents.”

The funds will be used to expand the M.P. Baker Library. The new space will be used to add shelving space, computer labs, classrooms, and study rooms. Users served by the project is approximately 1,700.

In Fiscal Year 2003, a total of \$15.2 million in direct and guaranteed loans were obligated. Community Facilities loan funds may be used to construct, enlarge, or improve community facilities for health care, public safety, and public services. These loans and grants are made to public entities and non-profit organizations. Examples of eligible projects include rural healthcare clinics, town halls, fire trucks, county safety equipment, jaws of life, early warning systems, community centers, libraries, day care centers, and schools.

For more information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, contact the Henderson Local Office at 903-657-8221, Ext. 4.

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*USDA Rural Development was created in 1994 and includes Business Programs, Housing Programs, and Community Programs. Its mission is to use the resources of USDA to provide an improved quality of life for the nation’s rural residents.*

**For more information on USDA Rural Development programs in Texas, check our web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>**

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Committed to the future of rural communities.

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14<sup>th</sup> and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD).